

Executive Committee for Highway Safety
Keeping Drivers Alert & Increasing Driver Safety Awareness
Working Group Meeting Minutes – Mtg. #3
July 8, 2004

Location:

UNC HSRC, Chapel Hill @ 1:30 p.m.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Doug Robertson
Adam Fisher
Cliff Braam

Tom Crosby
Joe Geigle

Don Ferrier
Kevin Lacy

Jane Stutts
Stacey Smith

Scribe:

Cliff Braam

Minutes:

- The meeting began at approximately 1:35 p.m.

Task I – Issues From Last Meeting

- Doug opened the meeting and asked if anyone had any comments, issues or other things they wanted to bring before the group. A generalized discussion of topics began and are summarized below.

Kevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is currently pending legislation for “Failure to Yield” which will include stiffer penalties for the violator is someone is injured as a result of their failure to yield. Dot should and likely will be supportive of this legislation.• Rumble strips are getting a lot of support from DOT. There are many projects that include rumble strips that are now getting funded; \$10 million in TIP amendments for rumble strips.• DOT Rumble Strip policy is in the final stages and should be implemented very soon. The new policy expands the possible locations where rumble strips can be utilized.
Tom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why not use more on two lane roads.
Kevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two lane roads are not excluded from having rumble strips, but there are various constraints that limit the use in some situations. Bicyclist do not like them, and often there is not enough paved shoulder to put in rumble strips.
Doug	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the feelings of the group as related to including rumble strips as

	one of our strategies.
Jane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is a good idea and the number one priority in the AASHTO guide that is being developed. Rumble strips are a proven, cost effective strategy for drowsy drivers.
Adam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has DOT considered or looked at rumble strips in advance of crosswalks, unsignalized intersections, etc.?
Kevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, but we have found that they need to extend across both lanes of traffic, otherwise, motorist will swerve into the opposite lane to go around them and we have had some very bad collisions due to this.
Adam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What about the possibility of banning the use of hand held cell phones.
Jane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New York which has such a ban has not shown a significant decrease in crashes due to the ban. This may be due to the limited publicity that the ban has gotten and people are not aware of it. Legislation like Maggie's Law in New Jersey for drowsy drivers can be beneficial. Not so much from the standpoint from having the law and issuing citations, but rather from the public education that often accompanies the law.
Kevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOT's work zone group has put together a video message that is tailored primarily to young drivers in driver education programs with the message of staying alert and driving defensively, especially in work zones that is real good.
Tom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has concerns with legislation allowing DMV to have on-line renewals of licenses. This is essentially the only opportunity that the State has to make contact with these individuals/drivers for educational issues, etc.
Don	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DMV could include questions into the tests and possibly even education screens that must be viewed prior to taking the test.

Task II – Developing and Implementation Plan

- Cliff reminded everyone that the main task of the group was to examine different strategies for alleviating/reducing lane departure type crashes and to present these to the Executive Committee for Highway Safety (ECHS) in the form of an implementation plan to see which ones they wanted to move forward with.
- There was general discussion about the implementation plan and its structure. It has been decided that the implementation plans for the working groups will follow the same general format as those presented in the NCHRP 500 reports.
- The group will take a particular strategy and put enough information together so that when it is presented to the committee, the committee can make an informed decision as to which strategies they would like to see moved forward.

Task III– General Discussion

The group next engaged in discussion centered around potential strategies for addressing lane departure crashes. A list was generated and assignments were made for individuals to take the

basic strategy and put together an outline as discussed earlier working towards the implementation plan. Listed below are the initial strategies, the decided action and who is responsible for each. (Note: NMI – need more information, DS – draft strategy, NA – no action at this time)

Strategy	Action	Name
Penalties for Failure to Yield (support of legislation)	NMI	Kevin/Kimberly
Improve rest area services, access and availability; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improving lighting and security utilization of these facilities to take care of young children working w/ public/private partnerships for things like coffee distribution 	NMI	Jane
Utilization of Fatigue Monitors	NA	
Drowsy Driving Law	NA	
Educational programs to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> split shift workers CMV hours of service Ban cell phones for those with limited driver's license College students military bases 	NA	
Rumble Strips	DS	Doug (coordinate w/Roger)
Ban on Hand Held Cell Phones	DS	Lauren
Education – Identify what is available, what is needed and how to implement. Approach this from three perspectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> General Message School Age Programs DMV/Driver Education 	DS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tom/Stacy Joe Don
Potential Research program for Identifying Distracted/Drowsy Drivers	DS	Doug

DUE DATES:

Date	Item
7/16/04	Short paragraph/overview of what your strategy is to Doug
7/30/04	Completed draft strategy; submit to Cliff. Cliff will compile and send to group for review and comments.
8/16/04	Comments due back to Cliff on draft strategies.

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Action Items:

Name	Item
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See Above: Draft Strategies

NEXT MEETING: August 30, 2004; 10:00 – 12:00 at UNC HSRC